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Sommario/riassunto

The field of health care technology assessment focuses on the use of medical technologies--their impacts on safety, efficacy, and effectiveness; cost-effectiveness and cost benefit; quality; and their social, legal, and ethical implications. This wide-ranging monograph addresses some of the gaps in understanding health status and quality of life, such as the use of quality-of-life measures in technology assessment, organ transplantation, and pharmaceutical trials. One chapter provides basic references for the technical attributes of many established measures and some lesser known ones. The final chapter offers recommendations concerning the appropriate applications of these measures and highlights areas for cooperative research.